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country, and that, from the length of the snout, it belonged to the Gavials of Cuvier. The head, when found, was enveloped in solid limestone, which had been completely removed by a sculptor. Dr. Morton also pointed out the distinction between this fossil and the Gavials from the Ganges and Orinoco. The dimensions of this head, and other particulars relating to it, will be fully given at a subsequent meeting.

Prof. Johnson called the attention of the Society to the high conducting power for heat possessed by the fibrous plumbago, presented this evening, transmitting caloric quite as rapidly as a slip of metal.

Prof. Johnson offered the following Resolutions which were unanimously agreed to.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Academy be presented to Maximilian, Prince de Wied, for the donation of a copy of his splendid work, entitled, 'Travels in North America,' this evening received.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Academy be presented to General Irick, for the valuable donation of the head of a fossil crocodile from New Jersey, which has this evening been presented.

Stated Meeting, July 16, 1844.

VICE PRESIDENT MORTON in the Chair.

DONATIONS TO MUSEUM.

Skin of Felis concolor, of very large size, from the upper Missouri. Presented by Owen Evans, Esq. of Philadelphia.

Specimen of Plumbago mica from Saybrook, Connecticut. From Mr. James W. Kendall.

DONATIONS TO LIBRARY.

Memorial to the Legislature of Massachusetts on the subject of the Insane. By Miss D. L. Dix, Boston, 1843. From the Author.

Memoir on the scientific character and researches of the late James Smithson, Esq. By Walter R. Johnson. Philadelphia, 1844. From the Author.

Prof. Johnson made some remarks on the specimen of Plumbago mica presented this evening, and on the comparative characteristics of other varieties of Plumbago from various localities, and as an artificial product, all of which were exhibited.

The specimens of plumbago from Saybrook occur in felspar, associated with, and passing directly into dark brown mica. Indeed so intimate is the union of these two minerals, that in several instances the folia are mica on one edge, and plumbago on the other. It is in some cases difficult to determine where the micaceous character begins and where the plumbaginous ends. The mass has, with the exception of possessing a crystalline form, much the aspect of some samples of furnace cinder from anthracite iron works which have fallen under Prof. J.'s notice, and which exhibited large foliated portions of keesh or artificial plumbago, passing into a greyish shining, silicious mass of nearly the same colour as the brown mica which accompanies the plumbago of Saybrook.

The only mineral with which plumbago is liable to be confounded by the casual observer, is sulphuret of Molybdenum—this mineral is likewise represented by authors to occur in or near Saybrook. A specimen of the sulphuret of Molybdenum which Prof. Johnson had tried, possessed a specific gravity of 4.6676. A specimen of fibrous plumbago presented at the last meeting, (probably from Ceylon,) had a specific gravity of 2.200 ; a fragment of the plumbago from Saybrook 2.353 ; a specimen of plumbago from Russia 2.227; and a mass of plumbaginous deposite from the interior of a gas retort, derived probably from the decomposition of bicarburetted hydrogen, had a specific gravity of 1.957. The relation between the several specimens of plumbago and their contrast with the sulphuret of molybdenum, are sufficiently indicative of the true nature of the specimen this evening presented. The peculiar silvery colour, and the greenish streak of the sulphuret were also referred to and exhibited in contrast with the darker grey colour, and the similarly tinted streak of plumbago as conclusively fixing the character of the specimens under consideration.

The occurrence of plumbago in numerous localities associated with coal, was alluded to, and the fact was noticed, that in these cases the beds of altered or *graphitized* coal, are generally in close proximity with igneous rocks.

This natural conversion of coal into plumbago, with the artificial production of it in the iron furnace, the gas retort and other similar situations, together with its existence in primary rocks, or in the fissures of adjacent sedimentary rocks, appear to point to a common origin of the material in all these cases.

Prof. J. proposed to give at a future meeting some further illustrations of the subject.

Resolutions were adopted, accepting a proposal from Dr. Morton to purchase from the Academy for a proper consideration, the remaining half of the range of cases in the South flying-gallery, for the purpose of accommodating an additional portion of his collection of Crania—and also authorising the Curators to have erected forthwith, a similar range of cases for books in the North flying-gallery.

Stated Meeting, July 23, 1844.

VICE PRESIDENT MORTON in the Chair.

DONATIONS TO MUSEUM.

Two finely prepared specimens of Rana ——, from the Island of Dominica. Presented by Mr. Wm. L. Bispham, of Philadelphia.

Leaves and seed-vessels of Alpinia nutans, and a portion of the milky juice of the Galactodendron utile, or Cow-tree of South America. Presented by Miss Percival, of Philadelphia.

DONATIONS TO LIBRARY.

A Geological Map of the Western States; and a concise description of the Geological formations, &c., of the Western States, designed as a Key to the Map. By Byrem Lawrence. From Dr. Morton.